

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 8-10, 12, 13, 18-20, 22-24 and 27-31 are amended. No new matter is added.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the interview conducted with Examiner Woo on April 14, 2004. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 10-17 and 22-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin, U.S. Patent No. 6,620,207. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's claim 1 relates to an electronic information management server for classification and retrieval of documents having feature extracting means for extracting a feature of electronic information stored in storing means connected to a network, deciding means for deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted from the feature extracted by the feature extracting means based on an instruction from a client, and deleting means for deleting from the storage means via the network unnecessary electronic information decided to be deleted by the deciding means. By this arrangement, the unnecessary electronic information is extracted from the storing means and deleted to create more space in the storage means.

Lin, on the other hand, merely discloses a method and apparatus for processing Chinese teletext using a computer to extract key phrases from the teletext existing in a television set or a computer for assisting a user to capture the essential meaning of the teletext (col. 1, lines 6-11). However, it is respectfully submitted that Lin is not in the same field of endeavor as an electronic information management server for classifying and retrieving of documents. That is, Applicant's invention discloses extracting a feature of electronic

information stored in the storing means, deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on an instruction from a client, and deleting from the storing means the unnecessary electronic information, whereas Lin relates to processing Chinese characters appearing on a teletext.

Accordingly, Lin fails to disclose or suggest deleting means for deleting from the storage means via the network unnecessary electronic information decided to be deleted by the deciding means, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 2, 3, 8, 12, 13, 18, 22-24 and 27-31.

The Office Action rejects claims 8-9 and 18-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin in view of Fitzgerald, U.S. Patent No. 6,434,533. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Lin neither discloses nor suggests Applicant's claimed invention as found in claims 8 and 18, the independent claims from which the rejected claims depend. Fitzgerald fails to overcome the noted deficiency of Lin. Thus, it is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Lin and Fitzgerald, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or render obvious the features recited in the independent claims. Claims 4-7, 9, 11, 14-17, 19-21, 25 and 26, which depend from independent claims are likewise distinguished over the applied arts for at least the reasons discussed, as well as for the additional features they recite. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-31 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

David J. Cho
Registration No. 48,078

JAO:DJC/rle

Date: April 16, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
